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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DUSTIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 04/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/764,956

Applicant(s)

SATAGOPAN ET AL.

Examiner

Dustin Nguyen

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 October 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 52 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 2-8, 10-14, 16-19, 21-26, 29, 31, 33-36, 39-43, 46-51, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

A. The following terms lack antecedent basis:

- I. A method - line 1 of claims 2-8, 10-14, 16-19, 21-26, 29, 31, 33-36, 39-43, 46-51.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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5. Claims 1-7, 9-13, 15-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fuh et al. [US Patent No 6,463,474], in view of Hendren, III [hereinafter as Hendren] [US Patent No 6,701,415].

6. As per claim 1, Fuh discloses the invention substantially as claimed including a network system, comprising:

a network server configured to maintain network access information corresponding to users authorized to access the network system [218, 220, Figure 3; and col 8, lines 28-33];

the domain controller configured to cache the network access information [i.e. network device] [432, 434, 436, Figure 4; and col 3, lines 29-39];

and the domain controller further configured to track individual users that request access to the network system from the domain controller [i.e. configure path] [col 2, lines 32-54].

Fuh does not specifically disclose

a domain controller remotely located from the network server and communicatively linked with the network server.

Hendren discloses

a domain controller [124, 138, 140, Figure 8] remotely located from the network server [102, Figure 8] and communicatively linked with the network server [Abstract; and col 2, lines 33-59].

It would have been obvious to a person skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Fuh and Hendren because Hendren's teaching would allow information to be cache within specific domain in efficient manner.

7. As per claim 2, Fuh discloses wherein the domain controller is further configured to cache the network access information only for the individual users that request access to the network system from the domain controller [col 3, lines 24-28 and lines 39-44; and col 9, lines 15-19].

8. As per claim 3, Fuh discloses wherein the domain controller is further configured to update the network access information at the domain controller for the individual users that request access to the network system from the domain controller [732, Figure 7B; Abstract].

9. As per claim 4, Fuh discloses wherein the domain controller is further configured to update the network access information at the domain controller for the individual users that request access to the network system from the domain controller within a defined time interval [col 4, lines 22-29; and col 14, lines 49-56].

10. As per claim 5, Fuh discloses wherein the domain controller is further configured to receive a network access request from a user [702, Figure 7A] and validate the network access request with the network access information cached at the domain controller [col 8, lines 1-8; and col 9, lines 56-63].

11. As per claim 6, Fuh discloses wherein:

the domain controller is further configured to receive a network access request from a user and validate the network access request with the network access information maintained in the network server before the domain controller caches the network access information [726, 728, Figure 7B; col 10, lines 59-67; and col 11, lines 49-67]; and

the domain controller is further configured to receive a second network access request from the user and validate the second network access request with the network access information cached at the domain controller [702, 708, Figure 7A; and col 10, lines 12-24 and lines 49-58].

12. As per claim 7, Fuh discloses wherein:

the domain controller is further configured to receive a network access request from a user and validate the network access request with the network access information maintained in the network server before the domain controller caches the network access information [726, 728, Figure 7B; col 10, lines 59-67; and col 11, lines 49-67]; and

the domain controller is further configured to receive a second network access request from the user and validate the second network access request with the network access information cached at the domain controller if the second network access request is within a defined time interval [702, 708, Figure 7A; col 10, lines 12-24 and lines 49-58; and col 14, lines 34-56].

13. As per claim 9, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 1 and 3.

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14. As per claim 10, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 1.

15. As per claim 11, it is rejected for similar reason as stated above in claim 2.

16. As per claim 12, it is rejected for similar reason as stated above in claim 4.

17. As per claim 13, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 7.

18. As per claim 15, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 1 and 3.

Furthermore, Fuh discloses a global information server and a remote server [210, 218, figure 3; and Abstract].

19. As per claim 16, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 14.

20. As per claim 17, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 7.

21. As per claim 18, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 1.

22. As per claim 19, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 7.

23. As per claims 20 and 21, they are method claimed of claim 1, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 1.

24. As per claim 22, Fuh discloses updating the network access information at the second site for the individual users that periodically request access to the network from the second site [col 19, lines 40-48].

25. As per claim 23, it is method claimed of claim 4, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 4.

26. As per claims 24 and 25, they are method claimed of claim 6, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 6.

27. As per claim 26, it is method claimed of claim 7, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 7.

28. As per claim 27, it is program product claimed of claim 20, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 20.

29. As per claim 28, it is method claimed of claims 1, 3 and 4, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 1, 3 and 4.

30. As per claim 29, it is method claimed of claim 7, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 7.

31. As per claims 30 and 31, they are program product claimed of claims 28 and 29, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 28 and 29.

32. As per claims 32-35, they are method claimed of claims 1-4, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 1-4.

33. As per claim 36, it is method claimed of claim 7, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 7.

34. As per claim 37, it is program product claimed of claim 32, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 32.

35. As per claim 38, it is method claimed of claims 1, 3, 4, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 1, 3 and 4.

36. As per claim 39, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 5.

37. As per claim 40, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 7.

38. As per claim 41, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 1, 3 and 4.

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39. As per claims 42 and 43, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 5 and 7.

40. As per claim 44, it is program product claimed of claim 38, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 38.

41. As per claims 45-47, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 1-3.

42. As per claim 48, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 1. Furthermore, Fuh discloses storing the network security information at the network controller only for the accounts identified when said tracking [col 2, lines 32-53].

43. As per claims 49 and 50, they are rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claims 4 and 5.

44. As per claim 51, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 7.

45. As per claim 52, it is program product claimed of claim 45, it is rejected for similar reasons as stated above in claim 45.

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46. Claims 8 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fuh et al. [US Patent No 6,463,474], in view of Hendren, III [hereinafter as Hendren] [US Patent No 6,701,415], and further in view of Ali et al. [US Patent No 5,940,594].

47. As per claim 8, Fuh and Hendren do not specifically disclose wherein:

the network access information comprises identifiers to indicate network group memberships that an individual user is a member of in the network system; and

the domain controller is further configured to maintain user objects associated with the individual users that request access to the network system from the domain controller, and cache the identifiers to the user objects.

Ali discloses wherein:

the network access information comprises identifiers to indicate network group memberships that an individual user is a member of in the network system [col 2, lines 3-18; and col 5, lines 48-55]; and

the domain controller is further configured to maintain user objects associated with the individual users that request access to the network system from the domain controller, and cache the identifiers to the user objects [Abstract; and col 2, lines 19-26].

It would have been obvious to a person skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Fuh, Hendren and Ali because Ali's teaching would allow to better manage and control of access information and resources.

48. As per claim 14, it is rejected for similar reasons as state above in claim 8.

49. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire **3 (three) months and 0 (zero) days** from the mail date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application (see 35 U.S.C 133, M.P.E.P 710.02, 710.02(b)).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dustin Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-5321. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday (8:00 – 5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (703) 305-8498.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directly to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Dustin Nguyen



**JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100**